GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5542
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2001
VISIT OF CHINESE LEADER
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mr. Li Changchun, Member of the Politburo of the Chinese Communist Party, visited New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the issues discussed;

(c) the outcome thereof; and

(d) the extent to which Indo-Sino ties will get a boost as a result of his visit?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a): Mr. Li Changchun, Member of the Politburo of the Chinese Communist Party and Party Secretary of Guangdong province, visited India from 12-18 May 2001, at the invitation of the External Affairs Minister. His visit was part of the continuing high level exchanges between India and China.

(b)-(d): Mr. Li Changchun called on the President, met EAM and Shri Pramod Mahajan, Minister for Information Technology & Parliamentary Affairs. EAM had detailed discussions with Mr. Li Changchun in which views on bilateral, regional and international issues of common interest were exchanged. Both agreed on the usefulness of greater interaction at different levels, both at the national and provincial levels. Both sides also agreed that there are concrete opportunities for development of bilateral trade.